

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 04758 010318Z

70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /093 W

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R 300827Z APR 74 ZDK

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 532

INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 4758

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH US

SUBJ: PRC NEWSMAN'S QUERY ON RESTON ARTICLE

SUMMARY: PRC JOURNALIST HAS MADE QUERY TO U.S. CONGEN ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE OF RECENT RESTON ARTICLE ON U.S. - PRC RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT THE JAPANESE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION APRIL 26, SZTO KENG CHIEF NCNA CORRESPONDENT IN HONG KONG ASKED CONGEN OFFICER IF THE JAMES RESTON ARTICLE ON STATUS OF SINO-U.S. RELATIONS (CARRIED EA APRIL 19 PRESS SUMMARY--- STATE 80714) WHICH HAD APPEARED SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER WAS BASED ON AN AUTHORITATIVE, HIGH-LEVEL BACKGROUNDER. CONGEN OFFICER REPLIED THAT HE HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING AND ASKED SZTO FOR HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE ARTICLE. SZTO SAID RESTON SEEMED TO BE SUGGESTING A "RETRENCHMENT ON CHINA". CONGEN OFFICER SAID THAT ON THE CONTRARY THE ARTICLE SEEMED TO HIM TO SAY THAT BASIC U.S. - CHINA RELATIONS WOULD NOT CHANGE. IN SUBSEQUENT LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH ANOTHER CONGEN OFFICER ON APRIL 29, SZTO AGAIN RAISED THE SUBJECT IN SAME TERMS AS BEFORE.

2. SZTO IS MOST TALKATIVE OF LOCAL CADRE AND HE HAS MANY CONTACTS WITH WESTERN JOURNALISTS HERE. POSSIBLY
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THEY PUT A BUG IN HIS EAR ABOUT RESTON ARTICLE. IN

RESPONSE TO FEELER FROM CONGEN OFFICER ABOUT THE STIMULUS
FOR HIS INTEREST IN THE ARTICLE, SZTO SAID IT WAS HIS OWN
IDEA BUT ADDED THAT PEKING UNDOUBTEDLY WAS ALSO INTERESTED.
CROSS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740103-0758
From: HONG KONG
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ISecure: 1
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: PRC NEWSMAN'S QUERY ON RESTON ARTICLE SUMMARY: PRC JOURNALIST HAS MADE QUERY TO U.S. CONGEN
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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